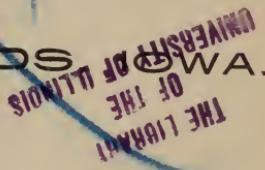


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1891-92

# YEAR OF PROGRESS

FOR  
*1892*  
COE COLLEGE,  
CEDAR RAPIDS



President Marshall's Report to the Board of Trustees  
for the Year Ending October, 1892, Shows Con-  
tinuous Growth in All Departments  
of the College.

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The Strong Endorsement by Cedar Rapids Shown in the  
Number of Students, and the Large Subscriptions  
to the \$50,000 Endowment Fund.

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To the Board of Trustees of Coe College:

GENTLEMEN: The history of Coe college from October 1891 to October 1892, contains many facts and features worthy of permanent record. The fifth annual report of the present incumbent as president of the college will try to cover this period.

I. The increase of the number of students over the previous year is not large in the aggregate, yet thirty-six enrolled in September, 1891, who had never attended the school before. The number enrolled for the year was 149, whose work was purely literary and scientific. Coe college work is two-fold: preparation to enter college, and prosecution of the four years' course. The work is purely disciplinary, mental training, strict adherence to the published curriculum. Students desiring scientific and literary training, are not so numerous as those seeking commercial, musical, normal education, and instruction in art. These departments command numbers, because the courses therein are short and cheap. Coe college confines its work to the college idea, and sends forth liberally educated men and women, whose mental power, after years of study, will enable them to adapt themselves to any position demanding ability and influence.

The Trustee's Scholarship is bearing fruit. It gives free tuition for the four years course to the honor students of high schools and academies, provided certificates of school authorities attest their fitness to enter freshman year. Their work must be regular, and attendance continuous. Cedar Rapids, Marion, Marshalltown, Boone, and other towns are represented. Earnest work, as well

as scholarship, characterizes such honor students.

Several things conspire to keep the aggregate of students in the line of slow growth. First, poor preparation for college entrance. Thorough preparation seems a desideratum, while circumstances compel entrance, if the high school or academical certificate of graduation is presented. Soon the work becomes too severe, the student drops into special work out of the regular course. The zest for continuous work with no objective aim departs, and the student drops out of college before trained to appreciate the promise and priceless worth of a liberal education. Again, many students are poor. Years are requisite to get an education. Not only the hard work in study, but money is required to spend from four to seven years within scholastic walls. Less than \$200 will meet all expenses at Coe college, yet this amount is large for the real "go-to-college" student. Poor preparation and lack of means are sifting and thinning forces. We are trying to remedy the first in our Preparatory Department by giving therein the symmetrical training students need for college entrance, so that, when in college, both purpose and ability will carry the student through the whole course. The second cause may be removed by scholarships for worthy students, whose heroic struggles often fail to secure survival. Cedar Rapids begins to appreciate our efforts in better preparation by the large number of students now in this department. We are now prepared to consider the claims of worthy indigent students, for a "friend" in New York City has just promised the interest on \$5,000

at 5 per cent for scholarships and similar demands.

II. The standard of scholarship in Coe College has not only been raised during the past year, but the scope of the work has been enlarged. To the three collegiate courses, classical, philosophical, and scientific, has been added the course of civil engineering. A new professor of pure and applied mathematics has been secured for this new department.

Prof. Meek, of the biological Department, left us in February, 1892 for the Arkansas State University, and Prof. George R. Dean, a specialist in applied as well as pure mathematics was secured from the School of Mines, Rolla, Mo., who was in command of all the mathematical classes within three days after Prof. Meek left, and Prof. Meek's biological classes were at once in the hands of Prof. Stookey, who is teaching the college classes in natural history and geology with the most encouraging results. Prof. Dean left us in August for the University of Virginia, and Prof. Gordon V. Skelton of the Arkansas State University now fills most acceptably the chair of mathematics and civil engineering. The college is now equipped for work for young men who desire to be civil engineers. The class and draughting rooms for this department are remodeled from rooms formerly occupied by the boiler and for storage. They have been floored, papered and painted and thoroughly fitted for the work.

III. Improvements have been made in all departments for more efficient work therein and for the greater comfort of students. The chemical laboratory has been enlarged and furnished with ad-

ditional apparatus through the persistent energy of Prof. C. O. Bates, until students will now find the same facilities and appliances for chemical analysis and study as complete as at any college in the land.

The rooms for biology, physics, natural history, English literature and history and the languages, have been changed, painted, papered or decorated, and made attractive and convenient. Williston Hall for young ladies has been repapered and furnished with new furniture wherever needed, so that comfort and security are everywhere present. No longer any danger from boiler explosion. The old boilers that furnished steam to the buildings have been removed, and the buildings are to be re-piped and heated by steam furnished by the Electric Light company of Cedar Rapids, forcing it through pipes underground from the power house to the college, over a mile in distance. The success of this mode of distributing steam throughout the city assures the college authorities of safety, cleanliness, warmth and satisfaction during the coming winter.

These improvements, making our college building attractive, convenient, adaptive to the work, will cost several thousand dollars, and our finance committee have confidence in the friends of higher education in Coe College, whose generosity will meet all these needed improvements.

IV. The library and museum have been greatly enlarged through the kindness of friends. The large collection of birds and animals, amounting in value to several hundred dollars, was paid for by Mr. Joseph Butler, banker, of Spring-

ville, Iowa, now called the "Butler Collection." Dr. Abbott of Manchester, Iowa, has sent to our museum cases of geological specimens and fossil remains that he has gathered from all parts of the world through many years of pleasurable study. These two collections are in themselves a museum, and while they enrich the college, they will memorialize the generosity of the gentlemen in the gratitude of the authorities of the college. Various other contributions have come to the museum from C. B. Soutter, J. C. Broeksmit, Prof. T. S. Parvin, Chas. Weare, Dr. J. F. Ely, Rev. J. K. Hall, J. Carmody, C. B. Weeks, M. B. Allen, Dr. T. S. Bailey, O. W. Carpenter, Mrs. Garretson, Thaddeus McRae, and cash donations for museum cases by J. L. Billau, Edward Scott, C. D. Van Vechten, Mr. Munger and C. J. Deacon. The library has been increased by Lowell's complete works by C. B. Soutter; Earth and its Inhabitants, twenty large volumes, by John Sinclair; the leading magazines and papers by John S. Ely; bust of Lincoln and a map of the grounds of the World's Fair by Dr. J. F. Ely; fifty volumes of scientific and philosophical works by the Philosophy Club of Cedar Rapids; several volumes by Miss Johnson; fifty volumes by Rev. R. G. Carroll; maps by Hon. J. T. Hamilton; complete set of congressional records of the Fifty-first congress by Senator Allison; apparatus for generating oxygen and hydrogen gases by Dr. Skinner; various valuable histories by Dr. G. E. Crawford; cash donations from the Second Presbyterian church and Second United Presbyterian church for the purchase of books; Watt's Dictionaries of Chemistry by John Sinclair;

two volumes by the author, Rev. Vittum; World's Fair documents by Miss Miller. All these books, maps, collections of natural history, from so many friends, attest the great advantages of our college to the student and the wide-reaching friendship for the college in the growing list of observing and cultivated friends.

V. The financial condition of the college has been greatly improved during the last year. In January, 1892, Messrs. J. F. Ely, C. B. Soutter, the Douglas brothers and C. G. Greene were the managers of a banquet given to the president of the college whereat nearly one hundred of the leading citizens of Cedar Rapids were present to manifest their interest in the present growth and future welfare of Coe College. Shortly after this memorable and most successful social occasion, an endowment fund was inaugurated, to raise \$50,000. The following persons are subscribers to this fund, amounting to nearly \$30,000: J. F. Ely, Mrs. C. C. Sinclair, C. B. Soutter, the Douglas brothers, John Sinclair, S. C. Bever and sons, J. C. Broeksmit, C. J. Ives, J. S. Cook, P. C. Frick, Lawson Daniels, Morris K. Jesup, John Thomas, Waterhouse, Benjamin Thaw, P. C. Frick, Frank C. Hormel and others; while there are many citizens interested in the growth of the College, who are ready to help complete the endowment of \$50,000, when the subscription book is presented. With such endorsement at home and seventy-four students besides from Cedar Rapids and Marion, Coe college has good title to live, and under the keeping of God, to become one of the most useful institutions of our state.

VI. Physical exercise has not been overlooked, but on the contrary has been specially encouraged. The Campus now is well furnished for athletic exercises. Graduates of old colleges like Yale, Princeton, Harvard, Hamilton, Lafayette, Michigan university, and others—professional men living in Cedar Rapids—have subscribed liberally through Mr. C. G. Greene to fit up the grounds on the Coe college campus. The gentlemen who have thus laid the students and the college under obligations are Messrs. C. G. Greene, J. S. Ely, E. J. Crowell, W. J. Green, Robert Williams, A. B. Poore, S. L. Dows, Jr., C. B. Keeler, I. B. Smith, J. K. Charles, Johnson Brigham, George Greene, L. A. Brewer, Geo. G. Bel't, S. E. Sinclair, and Fred H. Shaver. The grounds have been graded and the grading was prosecuted and finished under the daily superintendance of Mr. J. S. Ely. Coe college will ever encourage athletic sports, but not to the extent, we trust, that our teams be transformed into traveling gambling menageries.

VII. For five winters in succession a course of lectures has been successfully carried out during the winter term. Students were required to be present and were examined on them at the end of the term. The lectures last winter were largely attended by the citizens of the city and Marion, and Messrs. Burkhalter, Broeksmitt, Raymer, Bingham and Prof. Wilson of Ames, Iowa, were valuable accessions to the faculty for the purpose of true university extension. There is a stimulus in such a course of lectures which is felt all through the college. It teaches especially the work

in English language and literature. More excellence is manifest in the monthly rhetoricals under the direction and inspiration of Miss King, and more zeal is developed in oratory and debate in which Coe college has been so successful in winning honors—standing second this year, while she stood first last year in the state oratorical contest. Not inseparable from this work is the history of the prizes. They extend now to nearly all departments. The following gentlemen continue their prizes for '92 and '93: Messrs. Souter, Bever, Drs. Ristine, Prof. Wilson, Prof. Parvin and the Board of Trustees. The following new ones have been added: Hon. S. L. Dows, three prizes for essays in moral philosophy given to the junior class, and Dr. G. E. Crawford, two prizes in work in biology.

The work of Prof. Condit in the ancient languages and Miss Leeb in the modern languages, have been most thorough and practical, making language an instrument for scientific research and a mighty power to give strength and beauty to human thought. Lectures, rhetoricals, prize contests, oratory, are all means, incidental in a course of study, to attain the ends.

VIII. The religious work of the college has not suffered by any undue attention to intellectual training. The influence of a christian personality in the body of instructors, in the halls, in the society, and in the class room, is productive of a christian and refining atmosphere that characterizes the life of Coe college. This influence is felt in the daily work of the departments, and it is also marked in the lives of the young ladies of Williston Hall, who find

in Mrs. Stookey, the lady principal, a christian companion and instructor, along all the lines that require observance of the amenities of social life, and recognition of christian duties. The religious history of the college may be found in the obligatory attendance at daily chapel services and stated attendance at the church of the student's choice every Sabbath morning; and in their voluntary attendance at all other religioug meetings, consisting of weekly prayer meetings and monthly missionary meetings, also in the support of special mission work both at home and abroad; the day of prayer for colleges, the week of prayer and the weekly bible class for study of the Scriptures, which gather in the students' rooms on Sabbath morning; all these services into which the great majority of the students enter with reverence, create characters in sympathy with the good and the true, frowning down that which is evil and deriving therefrom while in college a character-power which refines while it educates, and which ennobles man while it glorifies God.

In closing this sketch cf college work for the year ending October, 1892, the

faculty and students desire to express their sympathy for two members of the board. Messrs. Chas. B. Soutter and the Hon. Wilson, the former having lost his only son, and the latter his esteemed wife. Robert Thompson Soutter's death is deeply mourned by both faculty and students, for he was a young man of the most refined and noble qualities. He was beloved for what he was in himself, and furthermore his death seems to us, from our human standpoint, a calamity to both the College and the city. For he was a most promising student and the future years of his manhood, with the great possibilities of his social and business relations, both to the College and the city would be blessed by his influence. These gentlemen may be assured of the truest sympathy of the college in their deep bereavement, but only divine grace through Jesus Christ our Lord can give the abiding comfort needful in the severest trials.

Grateful for the hearty co-operatio of the board in all things making for the prosperity of the college, the above report is respectfully submitted.

JAMES MARSHALL,  
President of Coe College.

# Notes of Importance.

1. The business men of the Board of Trustees of Coe College desire to call the attention of the business men of Cedar Rapids to the needs of the College, in order that the income may meet the new demands arising from the growing efficiency of the institution. It is an honor to Cedar Rapids to be an intellectual center through the influence of a first-class college. Furthermore, such an institution will contribute to the business interests of the business men in every department of industry.

Even at present over \$15,000 are left in Cedar Rapids annually by the students of the College. This might easily be increased to \$30,000. A \$50,000 endowment fund needed. \$30,000 of it is already subscribed. Subscribers may let their subscriptions run for ten years, provided they pay the interest annually, at per cent., on the first of April each year. This plan will make it possible for everyone to have stock in the honor and efficiency of the College. Should this amount be subscribed by the business men of Cedar Rapids, thus making the College income meet the expenses, there is no doubt the Sinclair Memorial Fund, the interest of which the College now has, will be applied at once, for the erection on the Campus of a large mod-

ern building, containing auditorium, library room and offices, which will be an ornament to the city, an advertisement to the country of our intellectual activity, and a source of joy and pride to every subscriber to the Endowment Fund.

2. Young men and women desiring a full College course of four years, or a partial course for a term or a year, will find now the amplest opportunities at Coe College. Apart from the partial, there are the Classical, Philosophical, Scientific, and Civil Engineering courses.

3. Special advantages are given to students desiring to study physics, chemistry, and electricity. Forty-eight batteries, Gravity, Gonda, and the Edison Lalande have been placed in the College, with 96 wires in connection with a switchboard, so that students get practical knowledge of the application of the electric force.

4. The Museum and Library are crowded with helps for study. More room is needed to display what already belongs to the College.

5. The professor of Biology is a member of the expedition to the Bahama Islands, the coming summer, sent by the College, and his marine collections will



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be very valuable to students in the study of the manifold phenomena of life, both on land and in the sea.

6. The expense of all these advantages is less than \$200 a year, including board, tuition and room rent.

7. The instruction given is thorough, and is in perfect accord with the curriculum published in the catalogue.

8. The central point of work in Coe College is the Academical idea of mental discipline, and acquisition relating to the full four years College Course, essential to a liberal education. When the best high schools and academies have graduated their students, they are then just prepared to enter Freshman Year. Our work is purely literary and scientific.

9. The winter term will begin January 3d, '93, the spring term, March 28, '93, and the fall term, September 12, '93. Students are requested to be present on the opening day for registration, so that the legitimate work may begin on the day following.

10. Commencement Day is September 12, '93. Twice as many will graduate as at any previous year since the College was organized in 1881. The last ten days of the spring term will be full of exercises interesting to the public, and a most cordial invitation is extended to the friends of the College to be present.

For further information, apply to the President of the College,

JAMES MARSHALL.

